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New-Pork Daily Tribune.

TUESDAY, MAY 30, 1871.

Martial law has been proclaimed in Paris. The insurgents have been shot in squads of 50 and 100 at a time. The fires have all been extinguished. Gen. Vinoy has been appointed Governor of Paris. —— The Camadian Government will ratify the Treaty of Washington without submitting it to Parliament. The captain and surreon of an Inman steamer have been drowned at

The survivors of the Pittston mine disaster are dying. - Vice-President Colfax continues to improve. - Gov. Hoffman has vetoed the Code Amendment and Canal bills. —— Commissioner Pleasonton has affirmed the legality of the Central Railroad Scrip Dividend The fire in Bridgeport on Sunday caused \$175,000 damage. —— German Peace Celebrations took place yesterday in Chicago, Buffalo, Albany, and Troy. The crops in New-Hampshire are suffering from drouth. ——— A serious shooting affray between whites and negroes has taken place in Arkansas.

Gen. McClellan has presented his report on the new water-front of New-York. - The Insurance Convention continues in session. ---- Dr. Lanaban's trial is set down for June 15. === A railway train smashed a street-car. == Gold, 1115, 1115, 1115. Thermometer,

The organization of the Viaduct Railway Company is at last complete. We have often said before, and we now repeat, that we are not sure this is the best plan for the rapid steam transit through the length of the city we must have: but it seems the only attainable one; and we hope to see it liberally encouraged and energetically prosecuted to the speediest possible completion.

Commissioner Pleasonton insists that the New-York Central Railroad shall pay the tax on its interest certificates. The validity of the assessment is declared in strong language, and the order for its collection, to the amount of \$1,151,800, is positive. Of the justice of this decision there will be little question, though there may be some dilatory judicial steps taken to prevent its enforcement.

Fortune again shows her fickleness fate of Jecker, the Mexican banker, who was shot by the Paris Communists. Jecker, who was a Swiss by birth, had transactions with Miramon, and secured a quantity of Government bonds issued by that usurper. Mexico would not recognize them, and Napoleon III., wishing to add another to his many pretexts for invading her soil, made Jecker a French citizen, and then proceeded to enforce the fraudulent demand. This French citizenship enabled the Communists to arrest the old banker as a hostage, with impunity, and thus led to his miserable death.

The Governor has fulfilled the expectation, which we felt warranted in announcing to our readers some days ago, by vetoing the outrageous bill against the freedom of the Bar and the Press known as the Amendment to the Code. Gov. Hoffman has done many things in the service of his masters in this city which we have had occasion earnestly to condemn. We are heartily glad of an opportunity to say that in the performance of this act, which we know is directly against the wishes of some of these same masters, he deserves the grateful acknowledgments of all good citizens.

The horrors of the Commune are supplemented by excesses of the Versailles Government. The last fight in the Cemetery of Pere La Chaise was simply slaughter, the maniacs of the Commune, by a resistance as vain as it was inhuman, provoking a terrible fire from their enemy which destroyed alike the men and the women and children who had followed their fortunes. Since the surrender, the men taken in arms have been shot by platoons, a hundred falling at a single fire, and these summary military executions have taken place simultaneously in three or four places. Such policy is incomprehensible to us, who have not shot a single leader of a much greater insurrection; but such a populace as that of Paris is also incomprehensible and fortunately unknown to us. Humanity will condemn it without question; but it is uncertain if any other less cruel course of action remains open to M. Thiers. He must be cruel to maintain himself, and it is doubtful if the most positive report of the inside life of that institution

We publish this morning a report made to the Council of Political Reform by its Executive Committee, disclosing a trick by means of which an attempt is making to nullify the law of licenses for theatrical entertainments in this city. This object was sought to be accomplished by direct efforts in the Legislature in April last, but aroused such public ily forced through both konses, which does it is precisely the most innocent inmates of most (according to the report of this Committee) even mention the object at which it ferers by confinement. There is a frightful out a contemplated.

The widening of the river streets is also an important feature of the plan, and one whose this gloomy place who are the severest sufficiency of the severest animadversion that it was ostensibly given up.

was aimed, and by virtue of this our Mayor now assumes to override the salutary and universally acceptable provisions of the old law. It remains to be seen whether this plot to rob one of our most beneficent charities, for the purpose of throwing down all the barriers large, going about his business and earning that now restrain the multiplication of low and immoral exhibitions, is to succeed. Some little regard for public decency has been shown by the stealth with which these conspirators have acted in the matter, and the expression of a decided and general disapprobation may still prevent the further execution

DECORATION DAY.

The truest and most vital observances are those which proceed from the hearts of a people, rather than those which are the result of official direction. We regard it as in all respects fortunate that the attempt which was made a few years ago to have Decoration Day made a legal holiday did not succeed. The thought of honoring the memory of the dead seldiers of the Republic by decorating their graves was a natural and spontaneous expression of the popular love and gratitude, and it would have been hampered and chilled if the Government had taken into its hands the centrol and management of this memorial festival. On each successive year the ceremonies of the day have been more widely and more formally observed, until new the day has taken permanent rank beside the anniversary of our Independence as a national holi-

It is as yet somewhat a household and a family festival. The firesides are few where the memory of one lost in battle is not a frequent guest. It may be said there is not one house in the North where there has been no haveries they can afford; but a poor man who mourning for either relative or friend. That is unable to treat bimself to the luxuries vast army of citizens united the entire popu- which the Sherifi holds at the disposition of lation of the country in its wide-spreading the most guilty of his guests, should not suffilaments of interest and sympathy. New that the, in addition to the fact of his imprisonthe million of survivors have melted back into ment, the deprivation of every enjoyment the body of the commonwealth again, they or decency of life. It is only too evident from carry into their ordinary life the sacred assoclations of comradeship, and feel it a duty and | who are suspected of an ability to pay for the a pleasure to devote one day in the year to commodities in the acquisitive hands of Tracey, relighting the flame on the altar of the old are persecuted by numberless vexations to force friendship, made sacred by death. But there them to buy the privilege of eating and sleepis another class to whom this day is one of | ing like civilized beings. still deeper and more impressive meaning. It is composed of the great silent multitude of the of the death of the soldier came with a shock had been dreamed of and dreaded through weary months of anxiety always came at last, as sudden, and sharp, and cruel as if there had never been a death before in the world. The very remoteness of the fact seemed to add a new horror and poignancy to the grief. To some was granted the sad comfort of bringing home with bell and burial; but in innumerable homes the only confirmation of the first awful intelligence has been the ever increasing and deepening gloom of absence and silence. To all of these-to comrades, to friends, to stricken mourners-there is a genuine consolation in the act of giving up one day of the soft Spring weather to the memory of the heroic dead. There is nothing in the sympathy is more deeply consoling than that which unites a nation about the sepulcher of a departed friend? Grief is well nigh swallowed up in the solemn joy and pride which comes with the thought that the nation knows and recognizes the worth and nobility of the sacrifice represented by those flower-

strewn graves. The organization of soldiers through whose spentaneous action the first observance of this day was made, and whose skillful and prudent management has brought it to so successful an issue, has been especially fortunate in keeping the simple and touching ceremonial free from every taint of partisanship. As in the All-Saints are sacred to a truce of party and midst of the solemn scenes which speak so impressively of the littleness of earthly wranglings, so in this national act of loving memory there has been no violence done to the gentler emotions of the heart by any attempt to turn them into any worldly channels. So pure and free from intrigue bave these occasions been preserved, that if any one now complains that they injure his cause it is a confession that his cause is hurt by anything which intensifies and consolidates the sentiments of public

virtue and patriotism.

It is in view of all the solemn lessons of the day that we express our deep regret that another anniversary has come which shall not witness the full completion of the work for which the patriot dead gave up their lives. The public mind is not yet fully at ease in regard to the conquests of right and justice achieved at such enormous cost, and throughout the South there are still the smoldering embers of ill-will and discontent kept alive by an unwise and impolitic proscription. Only when the impotent protest against the course of events has ceased among those who appealed years ago to the arbitrament of the sword,-only when all distinctions as to civic rights and duties have passed away among the victors and vanquished in that mighty struggle, will the living be at peace and the dead be justly glorified. Let us carnestly hope that in the closing days of future Springs we may see a whole nation doing homage in harmony to its dead, and reconciled enemies standing by the graves in which their resentments are buried, united, by the lessons of bitter experience, in patriotism and religion, in peace and good will.

MR. BRENNAN'S BOARDING-HOUSE. Wishing to gain a positive and thorough knowledge of the interior workings of our jail system, we recently detailed one of the most capable and trustworthy reporters of our city department to pass regularly through a short term of imprisonment at the Ludlow-st. Jail, and to give an account of his experience for the benefit of THE TRIBUNE. His arrest was procured by a little management, and he remained long enough in jail to prepare the graphic and full action can now save his government from which we print this morning. In everything which he did he acted under the positive orders of THE TRIBUNE.

The result of his investigations is such as to convince us of the truth of many rumors in regard to the mismanagement of our City Prisons, in which we had before placed a less implicit credence. The impressive and dispassionate account he gives of the sufferings of the poorer class of prisoners, those who are unable to pay our thrifty Sheriff \$15 or \$30 a week for decent treatment, will appeal to the

sailors who have been detained as witnesses ever since last October, because they happened to witness a murder on board ship in the harbor of Montevideo. The murderer is still at his living, while these four men are rotting in jail, because they can find no bail for their appearance at some indefinite time, to give evidence in a case which may possibly never come to trial. Another simple-minded sailor is detained as a witness against a man who passed counterfeit money upon him. Another is held for the payment of sums he never possessed and never will earn as long as he is in jail. It is these men, who have either done no wrong, or who have committed faults so trifling that they have gained nothing by them, who are forced to endure the extreme hardships of prison fare and discipline, while the rich and dangerous rogues have every comfort and luxury furnished them, for a compensation which a thief can of course more readily furnish than an honest workingman. The \$30 a week which the Sheriff through bis instrument. Mr. Warden Tracey, exacts as the equivalent for the treatment due a human being, is nothing to speak of to a counterfeiter, to a swindler, or a burglar, whose gains are large and not tainted with the curse of labor. Nothing is easier than to be liberal with stolen money; but an honest or unfortunate laboring man, who by accident or inadvertence falls into the clutches of these officers, must either suffer the nameless privations of the pauper prisoners, or undergo an expense which may take the food from the months of his children. Of course there is no objection to allowing well-to-do prisoners to buy any comforts or the report of our amateur prisoner, that those

We do not know by virtue of what law or statute our Sheriff pretends to justify this sysbereaved to whom, during the war, the news tem of concussion and extortion. The intenfion of the law is doubtless to give to persons which never seemed expected. The fate which | detained for offenses whose guilt is not proved, and most especially to those innocent persons who are held simply as witnesses, as favorable creatment as is consistent with their safety, and the economy necessary to the administration of public institutions. We subthat the picture drawn by our mit intelligent and trustworthy agent of the jail in Ludlow-st. does not answer these requirements. This prison seems to be used as a machine for extorting money from prisoners, and this, we take it, is neither lawful nor

THE PROPOSED DOCK SYSTEM.

It will, of course, disgust the ambitious engineers and amateurs who submitted to the world more precious than sympathy, and what Dock Commissioners innumerable plans for new wharves and piers for this port, to know that they have been rejected, one and all. Here and there a valuable suggestion has been accepted and incorporated in an entirely new plan, which, after a year's study of the subject. Gen. McClellan has prepared, and which we publish this morning in full. There is little reason to regret the rejection of the plans heretofore submitted and published, for most of them were practically worthless; many others, if adopted, would have rendered necessary radical changes in the water front and in the harbor not to be contemplated seriously for a moment; while still others would have caused the infliction of a tax on commerce which in cemeteries of Europe the days of All-Souls and its present condition it could not bear and prosper. The plan adopted has been a long of caste, where all are equal before the ma- time under preparation, and the cost of makjesty of death, and all are brethren in the ing it has been considerable, but few will be disposed to be captious at those who already give evidence of having made haste slowly; and it will be wise economy if present large expenditures secure a good plan which can be carried out with safety and cheapness in the future. In spite of some criticisms of a correspondent whose long experience in harbor matters entitles his opinion to respect, we are disposed to regard the plan of Gen. McClellan, now submitted in detail, as practical, elaborate enough for all probable future demands of our commerce, and economical. The cost of the docks will, of course, depend eventually on ths Commissioners who are to superintend their construction, and of their economy in practice we are not so well assured as of that professed by their Engineer; but it will be not wholly a fault of the plan if an excellent system of docks is not obtained at comparatively

small cost.

The chief dangers to be avoided in the reconstruction of our docks are the obstruction of the currents of the rivers and bays, and the taxation of commerce by the cost of the work. There has long existed a fear that the encroachments of the wharves on both sides of the two main rivers of New-York would eventually obstruct the channels in such a way as to destroy the tidal force which now carries the deposits of the sewers and rivers to the sea. The proposition to take away materially from the width of the rivers as made in this plan consequently awakened grave apprehensions; but the assurance of Gen. Humphreys, with which Gen. McClellan fortifies his own opinion, that this disastrous effect will not follow the narrowing of the stream, will set doubts at rest and disarm opposition. It is an opinion from which engineers and men with practical knowledge of the peculiarities of our harbor will strengly dissent; but, as the question is one which time alone can decide, the public may be content to test it on the strength of the opinion quoted. The Engineer of the Board, if not the Board itself, is fully alive to the importance of not permitting the proposed improvement of the harbor to become too great a burden to commerce. He recognizes the necessity of making the port attractive to the commercial marine by the cheapness as well as the superiority and safety of the dock accommodations. His system, therefore, contemplates the erection of cheap wooden piers, such as we now have, on a plan which permits their renewal in more substantial form by future generations. The system itself is to be permanent and unalterable, and is ordered with a view to the future demands of a rapidly-increasing commerce; but the piers are to be capable of renewal or alteration, as cfreumstances require and the prosperity of the city warrants. In these two features the plan is unquestionably an admirable one, always supposing that it can be carried

mockery of justice in the story of the three it is completed. Everybody recognizes the importance of increasing facilities for traveling the length of the island, and relieving the overcrowded streets of the lower part of the city. The widening of South and West-sts. along East and Hudson Rivers to two hundred feet, would furnish such facilities and relief more effectually than it is possible to do in any other way." There is no part of the plan which will commend it more strongly to New-York residents than this feature of widened river streets; and if assured of the purpose of the Commissioners to conduct the work with strict economy and for the general public good, they will rejoice to see it begun at once. But in the carrying out of an immense undertaking like this, involving the ultimate expenditure of many millions of money, the people will demand the most rigid economy and the strictest henesty.

THE CANAL SUPERINTENDENTS SAVED. Senator Jacob Hardenbergh on the 7th of February last introduced his celebrated "bill to abolish the office of Superintendent of Canal Repairs and to give additional powers to the Canal Commissioners, for the more efficient and economical repair and mainte-'nance of the Canals of this State." This bill was promptly and favorably reported, and the great debates of the session were held upon it. The Republican Senators subjected the canal policy of their opponents to unsparing criticism, and Senator Hardenbergh in vain attempted to confine the discussion to bill itself. At last Mr. Tweed, having other bitls to pass of more importance to himself, declared he was "sick of canal 'talk"-"never wanted to hear of a canal again "-and moved that the Committee of the Whole rise and report progress on the bill. This being carried, Senator Hardenbergh -dreading, perhaps, another debate-moved that the Senate discharge the Committee from the further consideration of the bill, and that t be ordered to a third reading. The Republicans, objecting to this summary process, and wishing to effer some amendments, voted unanimously against this motion, and the Democrats unanimously in its favor, and of course in favor of the bill.

The objects of the bill were transparent, and its main provisions commended themselves to honest men of both political parties. The Superintendent system had doubled the expenses of the Canals, had added nothing to their efficiency-as witness the numerous breaks and delays which attended the attempt to open them to navigation this seasonand had turned a greater flood of corruption through and over their banks than had ever been known before. Senator Hardenbergh, a shrewd and honest man where the leaders of his party permit him to be so, proposed to cut down the number of those in position to cheat the State from thirty-two to three, and to hold the three responsible. The Superintendents were responsible for their offices and conduct, not to the Canal Commissioners, but to the Canal Board, including besides the Commissioners, the Democratic State officers, who, it is needless to say, are not chosen with any reference to their duties in connection with the Canals. The Canals had thus become a field to fatten the followers of Tammany,

at the expense of the tax-payers of the State. Now, as we believe, and to quote the language of The Evening Post, "at the dictation " of a secret conspiracy of political managers," the facile Governor vetoes a bill which every Democratic Senator voted for, and which passed the Assembly by a large majority, and without hostile discussion. The bill would have freed the Democratic party from the stain which in some portions of the State still attends criminal extravagance, fraud, and corruption. But the Governor, unfortunately, is in the hands of men to whom a world-wide-reputation for extravagance, fraud, and corruption causes no disquiet.

THE SUM OF THE WHOLE MATTER.

The late session of the Senate of the United States began in hysterics and ended in a farce. Yet, between the hysterical investigation and the farcical abandonment, some grave steps were taken, and some grave questions raised. On these we purpose briefly to fix public attention before the whole affair passes through

universal contempt to oblivion. I. On the morning when The Tribune published the Treaty of Washington these things were known about it :- That the Joint High Commissioners had finished and signed it, and that it was their individual if not joint desire that it be made public: That the President had sent to the Senate a particular and personal request, by the hand of the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, that it be forthwith published, for the information of the people and the good of the negotiation: That it had been shown freely, and without injunction of secrecy, to sundry citizens: That the oldest and most trusted Senators desired its publication: That the State Department had shown it to at least one Editor, and had furnished a careful though incom-

plete synopsis of if to the press. II. No law was directly or indirectly infringed by THE TRIBUNE'S publication, and no pretense of the sort was set up. In any event, THE TRIBUNE had only done its duty to its readers, by furnishing them the earliest news of a document of commanding public importance. But the Senate decided (in secret session), in spite of the known wishes of the Government and the acknowledged right of THE TRIBUNE, to investigate matter. Such investigation could have but one rightful object. Whether any Senator or officer of the Senate had betrayed its secrets-that was a thing proper to find out, and perhaps worth finding out-albeit the men who now urged it were notorious as the most geady, in times past, to betray whatever Executive secret they wanted made public. With the settlement of that point the investigation ought to stop-the Senate had no more right to inquire beyond than it had power to punish.

III. What they did was very different. Mr. Roscoe Conkling early heard that a clerk of one of Mg. Fenton's Committees had done some copying for THE TRIBUNE on the night the Treaty was transmitted, and straightway fancied-such was his enger and illogical hate -that he might be able to connect his dreaded rival with it. Too shrewd, nevertheless, to move first in the matter himself, he succeeded in putting forward Mr. Matthew H. Carpenter in his place. Subsequently, when he discovered the storm he had aroused he attempted to evade the responsibility of his act, by saying with an air of candor that he did not originally seek the investigation; but the subterfuge proved a dear one. It was shown that, while others were talking vaguely about what should be done, Mr. Conkling

finally got Mr. Carpenter to offer it. The two maintained the relation thus established through all that followed-Conkling the prompter, Carpenter the tool.

IV. The first witness examined told their Committee all they had a right to know. Q. Did you obtain it from any member of the present

Senate of the United States ? A. I did not. Q. Did you obtain it in the room of any Senator of the United States ! A. I did not.

Q. Did you obtain it in any room occupied by any Senator of the United States? A. I did not.

Q. Where did you obtain it 7 A. I respectfully refuse to answer that question. Q. Did you obtain it in any room in which, to

knowledge, a Senator had been immediately before? A. Q. Did you obtain it from any officer of the Senate! A. I did not.

It was further put in evidence that the Treaty was not stolen, and that it was deliberately brought to THE TRIBUNE Office; and there was no evidence that any other than the usual expenses were incurred. All this was learned in half an hour. There the investigation ought to have stopped, and the Senate might have gone promptly to work on the Treaty. But the Committee begged permission to attempt extorting further answers from the correspondents, by imprisoning them in the Common Jail "for forty years if need "be;" and when the Senate hesitated, distinetly asserted again and again that they would be able to prove that a Senator had given out the Treaty, while to this they added the private assurance that they could certainly fasten it on either Gov. Fenton or Gov. Morton. The one was a rival in New-York, the other was a rival at the White House; both must be broken down, and this was the chance. V. The futile effort to extort answers to all

manner of irrelevant questions followed; the imprisonment of the correspondents, the disgraceful wrangles, the delay of the High Commissioners and of our Minister to England; and such a public washing of the dirtiest of Senatorial dirty linen as was never before seen. It all grew distinctly and directly out of the effort to extend the investigation from the point, Was a Senator or officer of the Senate responsible for the disclosure Senate document? to the widely different one, Who was responsible for giving THE TRIBUNE a document which the President had asked to have printed? We told them they should get nothing more, and they did not. Their threats were as impotent as their attempts were arbitrary; and at the end of their child's play they submitted to be told by one of the oldest and ablest of their number that any Justice of the Peace would ride over the imprisonment they were attempting.

-This is the sum of the whole matter: They wasted three weeks. They aroused the hostility of the press of the whole country speaking with absolutely unanimous voice. They attempted to exercise the most arbitrary power. They were resisted at every point, were foiled in every undertaking, and were forced to release the correspondents. And now comes the dispatch of the Associated Press, declaring that not a scintilla of evidence was elicited, spite of the malignant boasts and threats of Messrs. Carpenter and Conkling, to connect in the remotest manner any Senator or officer of the Senate with the publication! To reach this great result, what has the faction led by Messrs. Conkling and Carpenter done?

1. It has denied that there can be such a thing as journalistic honor. We commend that denial, and its authors, to the press. If it be correct, there is no profession of journalism. In no profession is the sacredness of certain confidential communications denied. Deny it here, and the business of collecting the news of the world is in many, and the most important cases, reduced to the status of Rob Roy's foraging over the Border.

2. It has claimed the powers of a general inquisition. It demands of White and Ramsdell information as to whether the Joint High Commission gave them the Treaty, or the President, or the State Department. It demands of The Tribune who writes the editorials, what are the weekly expenses of its Washington Office, what are the private statements made by its correspondents. We commend these demands and their authors to the Bar. If they are warranted, the maxims of law for the examination of witnesses are

worthless. 3. It has claimed the right to seize telegraphic dispatches, in the confidential keeping of the Company that receives them for transmission. We commend that claim and its authors to every man who writes a letter or sends a dispatch. Every reason that makes the seal of a letter sacred applies with double force to the dispatch, which, being equally confidential and not so protected, demands of the Company, that stands to it as the Post-Office Department stands to letters, an even more serupulous secrecy. The effort to seize letters in the post overturned a British Ministry. What should be the fate of those who seek to seize telegraphic dispatches?

4. It has claimed the right of perpetual imprisonment for refusal to answer questions not within the scope of the Committee's instructions and not such as a Court would require to be answered. We commend that claim and its authors to every citizen, who has not ceased to value personal liberty as the first of the blessings our Government is meant to secure.

To add to the horrors of the coal-mine disaster, it is now stated that the rescued men are slowly dying from the effects of the noxious gases inhaled. It is but the opinion of the physicians which we quote, and which we would be glad to reject, but the terrible effects of the inhalation of smoke or chokedamp are too well known to permit strong hope that the opinion is erroneous. The death is sometimes a lingering one, but almost always certain. The inquest has developed that there were fully fifty per-sons in the mine at the time of the disaster, nearly three times the number which the law allows. The Avondale disaster of last year inallows. The Avondale disaster of last year incited the Pennsylvania Legislature to pass law prohibiting the employment of more than twenty miners in a mine with only one shaft. ossibly this second Ayondale will inspire the Legislature to reduce the number of workmen liable to be victims of future disasters of the same kind at least one half.

The Hon. T. W. Ferry, Semator from Michigan, was inadvertently reported as having been in the City of Washington, and having declined to vote at the time of the Senate's action on the Treaty of Washington. He was in his seat and voted for the This mistake arose from the absence of Treaty. Treaty. This mistake arose from the absence of Senator Ferry of Connectiont, who was detained from his seat by sickness. The Hon. Thomas W. Tipton, Senator from Nebraska, was also misrepresented in the accounts received the night on which the Treaty was passed. Mr. Tipton neither voted against the Treaty nor dodged, but voted squarely for it on every issue and at the final ratification.

On Wednesday, May 17, Miss Kate Field and mother sailed for England in the Russia, being both apparently in as good health as usual. A cable dispatch annaunces the death of Mrs. Field on shipLIFE IN LUDLOW-ST. JAIL

Continued from First Page.

fire; the very atmosphere tastes and smells of jail. The ensus is terrible. The music of a stray barrel-organ, though it be "Shoo Fly," has a charm; a German brass band is a perfect God-send; even the occasional clanging of a fire-bell is a relief to the monotony; the advent of the newsboy with his penny sheet is the event of the afternoon. Even that great American resource for a passe-temps-whittling-is denied; for, though the food is wretched and the beds flithy, the halls and corridors are kept scrupulously clean. Notices posted about inform the prisoners that any infraction of this rule of cleanliness will confine them to their cells for all the 24 hours instead of the regulation 17. In the boarders' cor ridor these notices commence, "Gentlemen;" the "poo prisoners" are addressed as "persons." HIGH LIFE BELOW STAIRS.

Reversing the general order of things, the aristocracy

of the place all live down stairs. Their cells are in

broad, airy corridor leading from the billiard room and shut off at night from the rest of the prison by a heavy iron gate. They are very simply but decently furnished. and the beds have sheets and pillow-cases. Each of their occupants is a private boarder of Mr. Warden Tracey's. paying him \$15 a week; though if they choose to pay so a week they can have a nicely furnished sitting re lighted with gas in the private part of the prison, it must not be forgotten that Mr. Tracey draws 50 centar day for the feeding of every prisoner, boarder or no boarder, and the cost of lodging free from the pockets of the tax-payers. It is most amusing to witness the ob sequious manner of Mr. Saywer the moment he puts his foot within the sacrod precincts of the aristocracy. Every one is, Sir. He steps aside to let them pass, and otherwise shows his high regard for Mr. Tracey's bearders. In one of these cells a dashing, good-looking, smartly-dressed young man has been confined for over a year. He lords it with regal sway over the whole prison, and is said to have great influen the Warden. The secret of this is that he has, apparently, unlimited command of money. His wife co down and spends the day with him, other friends and relatives drop in to chat away an hour or two, and on Sun day he holds a perfect levee, notwithstanding that the printed rules of the prison forbid the visitors on Sunday. All sorts of delicacies find their way into this same gentleman's cell, such as pineapples, strawberries and cream, lobster salad. &c He is also allowed to leave the prison when he desires, though he has to take his walks abroad in the company of an officer of the prison, and pay \$5 an hour for the privilege. He is supposed to have committed some of-fense against the Internal Revenue Department, and was brought here from Canada, on a requisition from the Government, on the charge of forgery. There seems little doubt that he has committed no such crime, and the Government dare not try him on that charge. Consequently he is detained in Ludlow-st, with out trial, as the Canadian authorities will not consent to his being tried on a lesser indistment, and the uthorities here are unwilling to give him up. It is asserted that high officials here are interesting themselves in his case, and that active negotiations are going on with a view to procuring his release. Mr. Tracey also grants another and inestimable privilege to his private boarders. They are not locked into their cells till 11 or 12 o'clock at night, and have the run of the private offices of the prison, and can go to the bar-room with-out previously asking the permission of the keeper. Auy "poor prisoner private offices, even to see Mr. Tracey himself, or into the bar-room without permission, ours the penalty of being locked up in his cell all day It may be perfectly legitimate for the Warden to pro vide a plain table d'hôte dinner, breakfast and supper for those who are willing to pay \$15 or \$30 a week, but money should not be allowed to purchase any relaxation of the hours of incarceration which the law ordains. There is another most improper custom in connection with Mr. Trucey's boarding-house. Every prisoner who ecomes a boarder has to spend \$20 in champagne and cigars by way of "paying his footing." Of course, it is a mere custom, and cannot be enforced; but any new boarder refusing to comply with it is considered a sneak, and treated accordingly. In fact, he would, perhaps, be less miserwith it is able if he remained a "poor prisoner." Two young men, who are held by Col. Whitely on a charge of " washing " Revenue stamps to a large amount, boarded down stairs when they first went to the prison, as they were well supplied with cash; but they found that they could keep themselves better for half the sum per week which ifr. Tracey charged them, and joined the neble army of martyrs up-stairs. They have furnished their cell very tastefully; rose-colored curtains of simple material, book shelves, nice bedding, a miniature sideboard, washing conveniences, chairs, and a small cooking store. They smuggle in catables from outside, and, but for the irksomeness of being locked up for so many hours, they live in tolerable comfort. They seem thoroughly prepared for a long stay in the jail; it is fortunate for them, therefore, that they have plenty of nieney, for they seem to have been luxuriously brought up. A DINNER FOR A DOG.

At 12 o'clock every day, Sawyer, Quirk, and " Pishpalls" (the last is locked up for playing tricks with Uocle Sam's currency) appear with their ponderous baskets and serve out the prisoners' dinners. Dinners do I sall them! Rather say experiments on how not to dine Such a meal! The hungriest stomach, unless habituated whole time during which I remained in prison, I did not once essay to touch it, and one day when a reporter from THE TRIBUNE office came to my cell to converse with me on business, he was so horrifled on examin ing my dinner, that he packed it up in a sheet of newspaper and carried it off with the inspection of THE TEIRUNE editors. The prison dinner generally consists of three or four lumps of seraggy, shreddy, sinewy, half-cold beef, without gravy, which would do duty excellently for horse-flesh, two little potatoes with the skins on and no larger than heus' ggs, and a slice of bread, all jumbled higgledy-piggledy into a dirty, brown, greasy tin dish. As no knives and forks are provided, the peciing of the potatoes is a work of art almost impossible to perform; nor, I should think, does the primeval fashion of eating one's meat from one's fingers at all add to its relish. No water is provided at the meal, but those who are thirsty have to go and drink at the tap, where the morning's ablutions are gone through.

One afternoon, while sitting in the billiard-rowatching two men play for a dollar, which neither of them could pay, a little incident occurred which set my heart beating nineteen to the dozen. On the same bench with me sat two or three fellow-prisoners, and others were lounging around. It happened that when I made preparations for going to Ludlow-st. I picked out an old oat and waistcoat that I had not worn for nearly two years. Fumbling lazily in the pocket, I discovered a piece of felded paper which I carelessly displayed and tound to be an old counterfeit \$50 bill which had come into my possession about two years ago, when employed in getting up an article on the subject of counterfeiters. There are many of this fraternity confined in the prison. How could I tell that those on either side of me were not nembers of it! Hastily putting it back in my pocket D walked as deliberately as I could to my cell, struck a natch, and the bill was seen in ashes. Had the keepers got wind of it I might have whistled away the hours in Ludiow-st. till doomsday. returning to the billiard-room I noticed a stranger in conversation with one of the prisoners. Presuming that they were friends, I took little heed of him, and tras considerably astonished when he afterward addre me and inquired when my trial was coming on. I asked him who he was. He replied that he was a reporter for The Sun and other papers. I informed him that I had no desire to tell him anything, and hurried once more topay cell to avoid the possible chance of recognition. I heard afterward that he had paid me the compliment to mistake me for Dutch George, the so-called King of the Counterfeiters, who, by the way, the aristocratic Mr. Warden Tracey will not allow to board down stairs. His other boarders would not like it! It is just possible that Mr. Tracey is a little doubtful of the character of the bills with which Mr. George might desire to liquidate his indebtedness for board. The other counterfeiting iris-oners, however, deny indignantly the claim of Mr. George to be the leader of the profession, and assert that some of them are much more clever in it than he is.

. CRUEL IMPRISONMENT. Among the prisoners are some of those unfortunate detained witnesses. On a tier, near my cell, three stillors are confined who are witnesses against the steward of the ship Helen and Ophelia, who shot one of his fellowamen dead last August in the harbor of Montevideo He was brought home in irons, and, after a preliminary examination, let out on ball; the three witnesses being sent to Ludlow-st. There they have remained sinds last October. In the mean time the murderer has been on a voyage, carned his money, had a run ashore and enjoyed himself, and is now on his second goyage, earning more money, while the innocent men are locked up as criminals and fed on prison fare. They say no trial can take place till October, and that possibly it may then be ugsin put off. One of these men is very intelligent and handy-He carves ships with rude knives, and has decorated his tell with immunerable urtistic devices cut in paper. Auother prisoner, also a seaman, is determed as a wil-